

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jean-Marie BUERSTEDDE *et al.*

Application No.: 10/590,211

Filed: August 22, 2006

For: ***Methods for Genetic Diversification in Gene Conversion Active Cells***

Confirmation No.: 5528

Examiner: Sumesh KAUSHAL

Art Unit: 1633

Atty. Docket: P30753US00/21027.002

Statement of the Substance of the Interview of January 12, 2011

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit the following written statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.133.

On January 12, 2011, Applicants' representative, Kristan Lansbery, participated in an interview with Examiner Sumesh Kaushal at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding the captioned application. Applicants thank Examiner Kaushal for the Interview and for the helpful comments provided during the Interview.

Applicants' representative and Examiner Kaushal discussed the allowability of Claim 29 and the claims dependent thereon. Claims 47 and 63 were discussed with particularity. It was agreed that the client's permission would be sought for amending Claim 29 to recite a functional AID protein and B cells from some animal species which use the mechanism of gene conversion as a primary mechanism for developing their immunoglobulin repertoire. The remaining claims, which ultimately depend on Claim 29, were briefly discussed. The need for homology between endogenous or transgenic gene conversion donors, e.g. endogenous pseudo-V genes, and the target sequence was discussed. Without homology between the two, a target nucleic acid sequence would not undergo gene conversion. Specifically, a transgenic target nucleic acid

would not undergo gene conversion with an endogenous pseudo-V gene. No exhibits or demonstrations were conducted.

Further to the interview with Examiner Kaushal, the pending claims in the Amendment submitted herewith are revised to take into account the Examiner's suggestions. Based on the Examiner's suggestion, Claims 29, 35, 44, 51, 52, 55-58, 63, 65, and 67 are amended without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the underlying subject matter, and Claims 47, 69, and 71 are hereby cancelled. Applicants understand that the remaining claims comprise allowable subject matter and request a further conversation if the Examiner has any remaining concerns. The undersigned can be reached at (202) 942-5186 should any additional information be necessary for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristan L. Lansbery".

Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. No. 53,183)
David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Date: January 31, 2011

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